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**EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

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(54) **Simethicone containing laxative composition**

(57) The present invention provides a method for enhancing the transit of stimulant laxatives through the small bowel through the use of an effective amount of simethicone or dimethicone. Compositions useful in the method of the present invention are also claimed.

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# PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

which under Rule 45 of the European Patent Convention shall be considered, for the purposes of subsequent proceedings, as the European search report

EP 00 30 7689

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	HELDWEIN W ET AL: "Evaluation of the usefulness of dimethicone and/or senna extract in improving the visualization of abdominal organs." JOURNAL OF CLINICAL ULTRASOUND, (1987 SEP) 15 (7) 455-8. , XP008009977 * abstract *	1-4,6	A61K35/78 A61K31/80 A61P1/10 //(A61K35/78, 31:80), (A61K31/80, 31:44)
X	FR 2 017 735 A (BYK GULDEN LOMBERG CHEM FAB) 22 May 1970 (1970-05-22) * claims *	1,2,7	
X	FR 5 549 M (ROBERTI A) 20 November 1967 (1967-11-20) * example 1 *	1-4,7	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			A61K
INCOMPLETE SEARCH			
<p>The Search Division considers that the present application, or one or more of its claims, does/do not comply with the EPC to such an extent that a meaningful search into the state of the art cannot be carried out, or can only be carried out partially, for these claims.</p> <p>Claims searched completely :</p> <p>Claims searched incompletely :</p> <p>Claims not searched :</p> <p>Reason for the limitation of the search:</p> <p>see sheet C</p>			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		6 November 2002	Leherte, C
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
<p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C07)



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UNVOLLSTÄNDIGE RECHERCHE  
ERGÄNZUNGSBLATT C

Nummer der Anmeldung  
EP 00 30 7689

Claim(s) searched completely:

4, 5

Claim(s) searched incompletely:

1-3, 6, 7

Reason for the limitation of the search:

Present claims 1-3 and 6-7 relate to compounds defined (inter alia) by reference to the following parameter: "laxative or stimulant laxative". The use of this parameter in the present context is considered to lead to a lack of clarity within the meaning of Article 84 EPC. It is impossible to compare the parameter the applicant has chosen to employ with what is set out in the prior art. The lack of clarity is such as to render a meaningful complete search impossible. Consequently, the search has been restricted to those parts relating to the compounds individually structurally identified by name in the claims, with due regard to the therapeutic application mentioned in the claims

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 00 30 7689

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.  
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

06-11-2002

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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			BE 738028 A	02-02-1970
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82